

Reference the petition to extend license period or reduce cost of General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS). I agree with the petition. I use the GMRS frequencies as a Public Safety Volunteer. I have helped at 2 major disasters in the Oklahoma area. During one event, the May 3rd, 1999 tornado, GMRS frequencies were one of the main frequencies used by disaster response personnel. The use and availability of these frequencies were instrumental before and after the disaster. We use GMRS as weather spotters during periods of severe weather. Our spotters have reported tornados in and around the Oklahoma City Metro area to Emergency Operations Centers that have GMRS radios and monitor our traffic. It was one of our spotter reports that prompted the City of Moore to sound the sirens on May 3rd, 1999. The Mayor credited our warnings with the low loss of life in this tornado. For our volunteers, the expense of the license is not outstanding but it does make it difficult financially. As volunteers, we have many expenses that we have to cover ourselves. The reduction of the license fee or extension of the license period would go a long way towards helping us and future volunteers afford reliable and consistent communications. I have personally used GMRS frequencies in the above mentioned disaster, and to report accidents, both with and without injuries, traffic hazards, and other hazards to the public.

Please consider this petition carefully.

Thank you

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